

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following represents a complete listing of the claims in this application indicating the present status of each, including any amendments sought to be entered at this time. Any claims that have been canceled or withdrawn have been canceled or withdrawn without prejudice or disclaimer of any subject matter therein. The applicants specifically reserve the right to pursue any and all such claims in continuing and/or divisional applications. In this paper, claims 1-9 and 25-33 have been canceled and claims 10 and 18 have been amended.

Listing of the claims:

1-9(canceled).

10(currently amended). A system for reducing potential for substance abuse in a skin-worn transdermal patch device containing residual amounts of abusable substances after use thereof for administration of an abusable substance to a patient consisting of:

- (a) a disposable container separate from and independent of said skin-worn patch device and having an opening therein to receive a skin-worn patch device containing a residual amount of an abusable substance therein;
- (b) a layer in said disposable container including an amount of an active anti-abuse substance for treating said residual abusable substance in said patch device, wherein said anti-abuse substance ~~being~~ is selected

from the group consisting of binding and adsorption agents that prevents later extraction of said abusable substance of interest ~~using~~ by means of a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol or combinations thereof, ~~such that~~ insertion of said a properly oriented skin-worn patch device ~~properly oriented~~ into said container will cause contact between said abusable substance ~~in said skin-worn patch device to contact said layer including contacting~~ said anti-abuse substance thereby preventing later extraction of said abusable substance; and

- (c) closure device for closing said disposable container thereby capturing said skin-worn patch device.

11(canceled).

12(original). A system as in claim 10 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes activated carbon.

13-15(canceled).

16(original). A system as in claim 10 wherein said container is in the form of a flexible pouch.

17(original). A system as in claim 10 wherein said closure device includes an adhesive seal.

18(currently amended). ~~A system for reducing potential for substance abuse in skin-worn transdermal patch devices~~ device ~~containing residual amounts of abusable substances after use~~

thereof for the administration of an abusable substance to a patient, ~~said system~~ comprising:

- (a) an anti-abuse layer in said patch device containing an amount of an anti-abuse substance for said abusable substance ~~in said patch device~~ selected from the group consisting of binding agents for said abusable substance in said patch device, co-soluble antagonists, irritants and combinations thereof disposed in said patch device;
- (b) a source of containing said abusable substance in said patch device ~~spaced from said layer containing said anti-abuse substance~~;
- (c) an impermeable separator membrane situated between said anti-abuse layer containing an amount of said anti-abuse substance and said source containing said abusable substance preventing contact therebetween during normal use of said patch when said patch device is adhered to the skin of a user; and
- (d) a connector device linked to said separator membrane which attaches to the skin of a user when said patch is adhered to a user and remains attached upon removal of said patch from the skin of said user in a manner that causes automatic withdrawal of said separator membrane from between said layer containing said anti-abuse substance and said source containing said abusable

substance upon removal of said patch from the skin of said a user thereby ~~allowing~~ causing the said anti-abuse layer and ~~the~~ said source containing said abusable substance ~~source~~ to become engaged.

19(original). A system as in claim 18 wherein said anti-abuse layer contains a binding agent that prevents extraction of said abusable substance of interest using a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol or combinations thereof.

20(original). A system as in claim 18 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes activated carbon.

21(original). A system as in claim 19 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes activated carbon.

22(original). A system as in claim 16 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an amount of an irritant.

23(original). A system as in claim 18 wherein said anti-abuse substance includes an antagonist.

24(previously presented). A system as in claim 18 wherein said connector device for automatically removing said separator membrane includes a device that adhesively attaches to the skin of a user and pulls said separator membrane from said patch upon detachment of said patch from a user.

25-33(canceled).